

REMARKS

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of the application are respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks herewith. The present amendment is being made to facilitate prosecution of the application.

I. STATUS OF THE CLAIMS AND FORMAL MATTERS.

Claims 1-6 are pending. Claims 1 and 5, which are independent, are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. Support for this amendment is provided throughout the Specification as originally filed. It is submitted that these claims, as originally presented, were in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112. Changes to claims are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §101, §102, §103, or §112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled.

II. REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1-6 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

Applicants have amended independent claims 1 and 5 to recite the feature “wherein pixel defects are continuously detected and corrected during imaging, and pixel defects in image data are detected and corrected by combining a plurality of defect detecting methods and interpolation methods”, which is supported in paragraphs [0079]-[0080] of the published application, thereby obviating the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112.

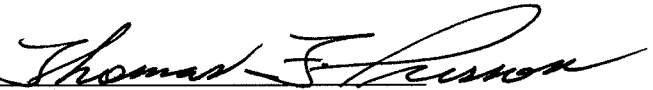
CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is believed that all of the claims in this application are patentable and Applicants respectfully request early passage to issue of the present application.

Please charge any additional fees that may be needed, and credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

Respectfully submitted,

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